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## PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

## CALIFORNIA.

The following report of plague-prevention work in California for the week ended October 21, 1916, was received from Passed Asst. Surg. Williams, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

## FEDERAL AND COUNTY INSPECTION SERVICE.

(For the enforcement of the law of June 7, 1913.)

Counties.	Number of inspections.	Number of re-inspections.	Acres inspected.	Acres re-inspected.	Acres treated.		Holes treated.
					Waste balls.	Grain.	
Contra Costa .....	5	67	2,725	21,598	.....	5,859	.....
Alameda .....	.....	94	.....	28,720	.....	3,785	.....
Stanislaus .....	17	105	6,165	53,947	1,873	44,158	3,390
Santa Cruz .....	12	22	2,341	4,481	.....	1,054	.....
Merced .....	7	43	9,432	20,817	.....	16,782	.....
Monterey .....	29	26	11,558	13,143	.....	11,135	.....
San Benito .....	44	57	27,270	27,617	.....	26,965	.....
Santa Clara .....	38	14	11,316	8,176	.....	8,288	.....
San Mateo .....	8	6	7,920	894	.....	540	.....
Total .....	160	434	78,727	179,393	1,873	118,566	3,390

## RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.

Oakland:	
Collected .....	57
Examined .....	57
Found infected .....	None.

## RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places in California.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number rodents found infected since May, 1907.
Cities:				
San Francisco .....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	(1)	398 rats.
Oakland .....	Aug. 9, 1911	Dec. 1, 1908	(1)	126 rats.
Berkeley .....	Aug. 28, 1907	(1)	(1)	(1)
Los Angeles .....	Aug. 11, 1908	(1)	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties:				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley) .....	Sept. 24, 1909	Oct. 17, 1909	June 23, 1916	293 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa .....	July 13, 1915	(1)	June 28, 1916	1,629 squirrels.
Fresno .....	(1)	(1)	Oct. 27, 1911	1 squirrel.
Merced .....	(1)	(1)	May 12, 1916	7 squirrels.
Monterey .....	(1)	(1)	May 27, 1916	38 squirrels.
San Benito .....	June 4, 1913	(1)	July 1, 1916	72 squirrels.
San Joaquin .....	Sept. 18, 1911	(1)	Aug. 26, 1911	18 squirrels.
Santa Clara .....	Aug. 31, 1910	(1)	June 21, 1916	32 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo .....	(1)	(1)	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Cruz .....	(1)	(1)	May 30, 1916	5 squirrels.
Stanislaus .....	(1)	(1)	June 2, 1911	18 squirrels.
San Mateo .....	(1)	(1)	June 21, 1916	1 squirrel.

The work is being carried on in the following-named counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Stanislaus, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Merced, Santa Clara, and San Mateo.

<sup>1</sup>None.

<sup>2</sup>Wood rat.

## OPERATIONS ON THE WATER FRONT.

Number of vessels inspected for rat guards.....	17
Number of reinspections made on vessels....	4
Number of new rat guards procured.....	2
Rats trapped on wharves and water front..	56
Rats trapped on vessels.....	35
Number of traps set on wharves and water front.....	304
Number of traps set on vessels.....	116
Number of vessels trapped on.....	16
Poisons placed on water front (pieces).....	3,600
Bait used on water front and vessels, bacon (pounds).....	5
Amount of bread used in poisoning water front (loaves).....	12
Number of pounds of poison used on water front.....	4
The following is a record of municipal work performed under the supervision of the Public Health Service:	

## COOPERATIVE MUNICIPAL WORK.

Number of premises inspected.....	725
Number of nuisances abated.....	90

## COOPERATIVE MUNICIPAL WORK—continued.

Number of rats found dead.....	1
Number of rats trapped.....	90
Number of rats examined.....	75
Number of poisons placed.....	12,600
Number of garbage cans stamped approved.....	740
Rats identified: <i>Mus norvegicus</i> , 32; <i>Mus rattus</i> , 18; <i>Mus alexandrinus</i> , 41.	

## WORK DONE ON OLD BUILDINGS.

Wooden floors removed.....	17
Number yards and passageways, planking removed.....	2
Cubic feet new foundation walls installed...	2,605
Concrete floors installed (square feet, 6,575).....	9
Number of basements concreted (square feet, 8,700).....	10
Yards and passageways, etc., concreted (square feet, 2,690).....	8
Total area concrete laid (square feet, 17,965).....	1
Number of floors rat proofed with wire cloth (square feet, 1,875).....	1
Buildings razed.....	11

## LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following reports of plague-eradication work at New Orleans were received from Passed Asst. Surg. Simpson, of the United States Public-Health Service, in charge of the work:

WEEK ENDED OCT. 28, 1916.

## OUTGOING QUARANTINE.

Number of vessels fumigated with sulphur.....	2
Number of vessels fumigated with cyanide gas.....	14
Pounds of sulphur used.....	50
Pounds of cyanide used in cyanide-gas fumigation.....	892
Pints of sulphuric acid used in cyanide-gas fumigation.....	1,338
Clean bills of health issued.....	35
Foul bills of health issued.....	3

## FIELD OPERATIONS.

Number of rodents trapped.....	11,102
Number of premises inspected.....	7,325
Notices served.....	359

## BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.

By elevation.....	117
By marginal concrete wall.....	91
By concrete floor and wall.....	113
By minor repairs.....	274
Total buildings rat proofed.....	595
Square yards of concrete laid.....	4,333
Number of premises, planking and shed flooring removed.....	67

## BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED—continued.

Number of buildings demolished.....	81
Total buildings rat proofed to date (abated).....	130,100

## LABORATORY OPERATIONS.

Rodents received, by species:	
<i>Mus rattus</i> .....	200
<i>Mus norvegicus</i> .....	702
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i> .....	122
<i>Mus musculus</i> .....	10,049
Wood rats.....	171
Muskrats.....	3
Putrid.....	129
Total rodents received at laboratory.....	11,376
Rodents examined.....	1,623
Number of rats suspected of plague.....	140
Plague rats confirmed.....	1

## PLAGUE RAT.

Case No. 344:	
Address: Crescent City Slaughterhouse.	
Captured, Sept. 3, 1916.	
Diagnosis confirmed, Oct. 22, 1916.	
Treatment of premises: Intensive trapping.	
Initiation of all necessary rat proofing throughout entire plant.	

<sup>1</sup> Indicates the number of rodents the tissues of which were inoculated into guinea pigs. Most of these showed on necropsy only evidence of recent inflammatory process; practically none presented gross lesions characteristic of plague infection.

## WEEK ENDED NOV. 4, 1916.

OUTGOING QUARANTINE.	
Number of vessels fumigated with cyanide gas.....	14
Pounds of cyanide used in cyanide-gas fumigation.....	885
Pints of sulphuric acid used in cyanide-gas fumigation.....	1,327
Clean bills of health issued.....	34
Foul bills of health issued.....	2

FIELD OPERATIONS.	
Number of rodents trapped.....	9,917
Number of premises inspected.....	6,483
Notices served.....	207
Number of garbage cans installed.....	2

BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.	
By elevation.....	55
By marginal concrete wall.....	113
By concrete floor and wall.....	117
By minor repairs.....	235

PLAGUE RAT.	
Case No. 345:	
Address, Virgil and Hamilton Streets, McDonoughville, La.	
Captured, Oct. 4, 1916.	
Diagnosis confirmed, Nov. 1, 1916.	
Treatment of premises: Preliminary steps toward rat proofing.	

PLAGUE STATUS TO NOV. 4, 1916.	
Last case of human plague, Sept. 8, 1915.	
Last case of rodent plague, Oct. 4, 1916.	

BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED—continued.	
Total buildings rat proofed.....	520
Square yards of concrete laid.....	4,639
Number of premises, planking and shed flooring removed.....	69
Number of buildings demolished.....	78
Total buildings rat proofed to date (abated).....	130,620

LABORATORY OPERATIONS.	
Rodents received by species:	
Mus rattus.....	193
Mus norvegicus.....	690
Mus alexandrinus.....	153
Mus musculus.....	8,728
Wood rats.....	180
Muskrats.....	4
Putrid.....	137
Total rodents received at laboratory.....	10,085
Rodents examined.....	1,709
Number of rats suspected of plague.....	115
Plague rats confirmed.....	1

PLAGUE STATUS TO NOV. 4, 1916—continued.	
Total number of rodents captured to Nov. 4.	912,693
Total number of rodents examined to Nov. 4.	393,681
Total cases of rodent plague to Nov. 4 by species:	
Mus musculus.....	6
Mus rattus.....	22
Mus alexandrinus.....	18
Mus norvegicus.....	299
Total rodent cases to Nov. 4, 1916.....	345

## WASHINGTON—SEATTLE—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following reports of plague-eradication work at Seattle were received from Surg. Lloyd, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

## WEEK ENDING OCT. 21, 1916.

RAT PROOFING.	
New buildings inspected.....	27
New buildings reinspected.....	29
Basements concreted, new buildings (square feet, 16,581).....	17
Floors concreted, new buildings (square feet, 12,260).....	11
Yards, etc., concreted, new structures (square feet, 4,673).....	9
Sidewalks concreted, (square feet, 6,150)....	
Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet, 39,664).....	
New buildings elevated.....	5
New premises rat proofed, concrete.....	28
Old buildings inspected.....	4
Premises rat proofed, concrete, old buildings	2
Floors concreted, old buildings (square feet, 1,275).....	2

RAT PROOFING—continued.	
Premises otherwise rat proofed, old buildings.....	2
Openings screened, old buildings.....	9
Rat holes cemented, old buildings.....	16
Wooden floors removed, old buildings.....	4
Wire screening used (square feet, 775).....	
Buildings razed.....	4

LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.	
Dead rodents received.....	15
Rodents trapped and killed.....	365
Rodents recovered after fumigation.....	6
Total.....	386
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	271
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

<sup>1</sup> Indicates the number of rodents the tissues of which were inoculated into guinea pigs. Most of these showed on necropsy only evidence of recent inflammatory process; practically none presented gross lesions characteristic of plague infection.

## LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS—continued.

Poison distributed, pounds.....	16
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	2
Bodies proven plague infected.....	None.

## CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.

Mus rattus.....	37
Mus alexandrinus.....	64
Mus norvegicus.....	211
Mus musculus.....	74

## WATER FRONT.

Vessels inspected and histories recorded....	18
Vessels fumigated.....	1
Sulphur used, pounds.....	800
New rat guards installed.....	5
Defective rat guards repaired.....	32
Fumigation certificates issued.....	1
Port sanitary statements issued.....	38

The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.

## MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors, new buildings.....	20
Letters sent in re rat complaints.....	3
Health lectures.....	2

## RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.

Mus norvegicus trapped.....	64
Mus norvegicus found dead.....	1
Mus musculus trapped.....	6
Total.....	71

Rodents examined for plague infection.....	62
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

## RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.

New buildings inspected.....	2
New buildings reinspected.....	4
New buildings elevated.....	2
New building basements concreted (square feet, 1460).....	1
Total concrete laid, new buildings (square feet, 1,460).....	

## RODENTS EXAMINED IN TACOMA.

Mus norvegicus trapped.....	91
Mus rattus trapped.....	1
Mus alexandrinus trapped.....	4
Total.....	96

Rodents examined for plague infection.....	93
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

## WEEK ENDED OCT. 28, 1916.

## RAT PROOFING.

New buildings inspected.....	21
New buildings reinspected.....	33
Basements concreted, new building (square feet, 50,480).....	14
Floors concreted, new buildings (square feet, 15,250).....	8
Yards, etc., concreted, new structures (square feet, 1,002).....	6
Sidewalks concreted (square feet).....	11,275
Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet).....	78,007
New buildings elevated.....	2
New premises rat-proofed, concrete.....	22
Old buildings inspected.....	5
Premises rat-proofed, concrete, old buildings.....	5
Floors concreted, old buildings (square feet, 8,275).....	5
Wooden floors removed, old buildings.....	5
Buildings razed.....	2

## LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.

Dead rodents received.....	9
Rodents trapped and killed.....	318
Rodents recovered after fumigation.....	15
Total.....	342
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	225
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.
Poison distributed, pounds.....	12
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	8
Bodies found plague infected.....	None.

## CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.

Mus rattus.....	33
Mus alexandrinus.....	43
Mus norvegicus.....	199
Mus musculus.....	67

## WATER FRONT.

Vessels inspected and histories recorded....	19
Vessels fumigated.....	2
Sulphur used, pounds.....	2,900
New rat guards installed.....	8
Defective rat guards repaired.....	10
Fumigation certificates issued.....	2
Port sanitary statements issued.....	59

The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.

## MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors, new buildings.....	20
Letters sent in re rat complaints.....	5
Lectures delivered.....	2

## RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.

Mus norvegicus trapped.....	59
Mus norvegicus found dead.....	1
Mus rattus trapped.....	1
Mus musculus trapped.....	4
Total.....	65

Rodents examined for plague infection.....	58
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.		RODENTS EXAMINED IN TACOMA.	
New buildings inspected.....	2	Mus norvegicus trapped.....	115
New buildings reinspected.....	4	Mus rattus trapped.....	4
New buildings elevated.....	2	Mus alexandrinus trapped.....	4
New buildings, yards concreted (square feet, 230).....	1	Total.....	123
New buildings, floors concreted (square feet, 216).....	1		
Total concrete laid, new buildings (square feet).....	446	Rodents examined for plague infection.....	121
		Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

### HAWAII—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following reports of plague-prevention work in Hawaii were received from Surg. Trotter, of the United States Public Health Service:

#### Honolulu.

WEEK ENDED OCT. 21, 1916.

Total rats and mongoose taken.....	381	Classification of rats killed by sulphur dioxide:	
Rats trapped.....	366	Mus alexandrinus.....	5
Mongoose trapped.....	2	Mus rattus.....	8
Rats killed by sulphur dioxide.....	13	Average number of traps set daily.....	984
Examined microscopically.....	306	Cost per rat destroyed, 19½ cents.	
Examined macroscopically.....	75	Last case rat plague, Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu, Apr. 12, 1910.	
Showing plague infection.....	None.	Last case human plague, Honolulu, July 12, 1910.	
Classification of rats trapped:		Last case rat plague, Paauhau, Hawaii, Jan. 18, 1916.	
Mus alexandrinus.....	166	Last case human plague, Paauhau plantation, Hawaii, Dec. 16, 1915.	
Mus musculus.....	135		
Mus norvegicus.....	48		
Mus rattus.....	22		

#### Hilo.

WEEK ENDED OCT. 14, 1916.

Number of rats and mongoose received at laboratory.....	3,025	Classification of rats trapped and found dead:	
Number of rats trapped.....	2,959	Mus norvegicus.....	517
Number of rats found dead.....	1	Mus alexandrinus.....	355
Number of mongoose received.....	65	Mus rattus.....	622
Number of rats and mongoose examined macroscopically.....	3,025	Mus musculus.....	1,466
Number of rats and mongoose plague infected.....	None.	Last case of rat plague, Paauhau Sugar Co., Jan. 18, 1916.	
		Last case of human plague, Paauhau Sugar Co., Dec. 16, 1915.	

### PORTO RICO—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following table shows the number of rats and mice examined in Porto Rico for plague infection during the period from September 9 to October 21, 1916. No plague infection was found.

Place.	Rats.	Mice.
San Juan.....	475	46
Santurce.....	392	84